

Bell Telephone  
Memorial  
*and*  
Bell Homestead

*By*  
*A. J. Whitaker*

Souvenir  
of BRANTFORD  
*the*  
"TELEPHONE CITY"

SOUVENIR OF  
THE BELL TELEPHONE  
MEMORIAL  
*and*  
BELL HOMESTEAD  
BRANTFORD  
CANADA

By A. T. WHITAKER



## The Story of the Telephone

*By* A. T. WHITAKER



JOY and sorrow, business and pleasure, war and peace, knowledge of all kinds, flow over the wires and wireless that form the basis of the world's telephone industry — a direct follow-up of an occasion in 1876, when a goodly number of residents of Brantford heard the voices of a trio of singers over a hurriedly set-up stove-pipe wire line which had its terminus in the Tutela Heights home of Alexander Melville Bell, father of Alexander Graham Bell, inventor of the telephone. It was then considered a miracle, and rightly so, as one of the wonders of an age then barely reaching into science. Today the telephone is the foundation of business, the fundamental of many new scientific discoveries stretching even beyond the confines of the earth's atmosphere.

The world has just gone through the Second Great War, in which the forces of the Axis powers, intent upon world domination, were defeated by the forces of the anti-Fascist bloc. In this, as in the First Great War, much depended upon the line of communications, the sound foundation of which was the outcome of the initial discovery of Alexander Graham Bell that as sound impinges upon a human ear, the delicate membrane conveys the varying sounds to the brain, which translates them, so sound could be received by a metal membrane which, by means of an electric current, could send on the impulses so received. Upon this discovery are based the now great communications systems of the telephone, the wireless telephone, radio and radar, all of which have sprung from the initial discovery made at Tutela Heights, now the Bell Homestead.

The threat this year of a nation-wide telephone strike in the United States lent emphasis to the dependency of a great nation upon its telephonic communications, and recalled to mind that the telephone played a great part in commerce and industry, in home life and pleasure, as well as meeting with unpredictable catastrophes such as the Fall River holocaust, where hundreds of lives were saved through the heroism of operators who stayed at their posts to pass on the alarm that enabled them to flee to safety. So in

floods, in cyclones, in other manifestations of Nature's uncontrollable powers, the telephone has come to be a life-saver on a tremendous scale, just as the fire alarm systems enable concentration of fire-fighting forces upon an incipient conflagration.

Inter-communication by radio telephones between ships and shore, between ships and planes, between ships in large convoys, between planes on bombing or reconnaissance flights, were Second Great War developments which were all based on Alexander Graham Bell's epochal discovery. The Battle of Britain was fought and won because of radar, just one development of the original telephone idea, enabling Britain to remain the "unsinkable aircraft carrier" from which the thousand-plane raids were made daily, night and day, to hammer the Reich's industrial might into submission. And on land a huge system of telephonic communication had to be set up to enable the brains directing the movements of Allied forces to be kept in close touch on the one hand with the fighting men and on the other the service of supplies so necessary to keep the fighting men supplied with all types of necessities. And these fighting forces themselves were able to keep in direct touch with their supporting forces of artillery and aircraft to bring to bear upon the proper point the volume of firepower which meant success in their land advances.

And to the stay-at-home, the news, at times of personal loss, at others of stalemate or worse, at still others of glorious victory, was conveyed by telephonic communication, so that the whole world knew very speedily of the varying developments along the widely scattered front lines of the Allies who were ultimately destined to triumph.

Yet, prior to the year 1876, when in Brantford the first telephone message was sent over a real telegraph line, there was no such thing as talking through a wire to persons located in different places, whether far or near. The telegraph had been invented by Morse in 1835, and thus messages could be transmitted by wire through electric energy. These messages, however, had none of the personal touch. The possibility that these same wires could be used for conveying the actual intonation of a speaker, with all the individual mannerisms of intonation and inflection and language, if ever thought of, was as but an impossible dream.



# [ Bell Telephone Memorial ]

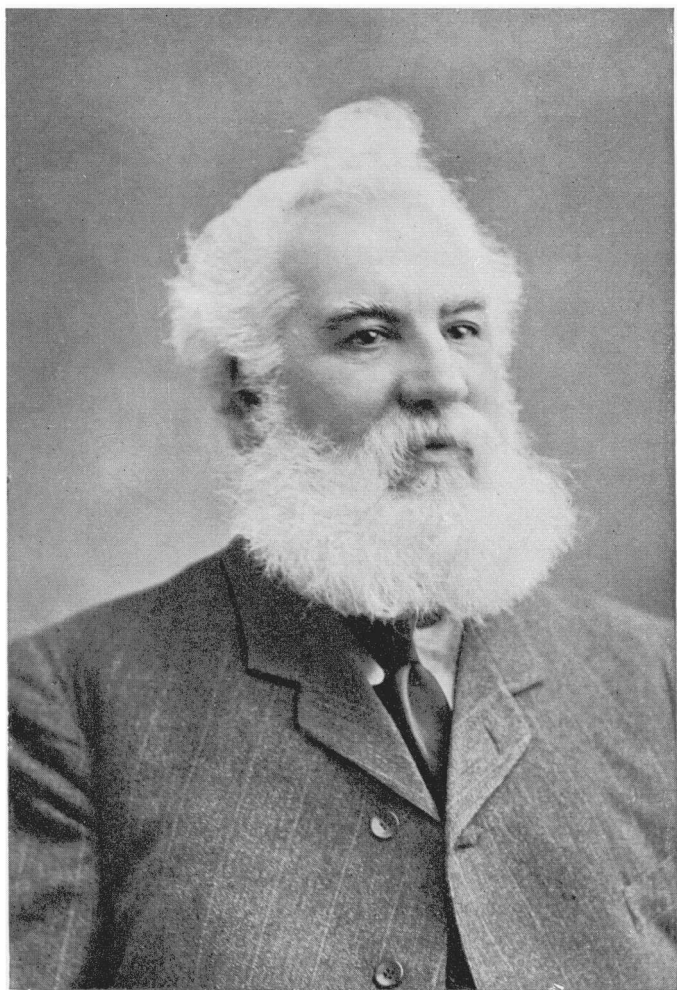
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That this was made an actual accomplishment, was due entirely to two men — Alexander Melville Bell and his son, Alexander Graham Bell. The former was a noted master of elocution, and inventor of a new theory of articulation by which all audible sounds could be reduced to signs translatable by any person instructed in the symbols. The son, also thoroughly versed in the science of speech, when but a young man became possessed with the idea of teaching deaf mutes to speak, being the first, at least in England, to attempt this. He took a few deaf mute children, and by teaching them his father's system of visible speech, soon had them saying a few simple words. The father, then a professor in the University of London, was invited to give a series of lectures at the Lowell Institute, Boston, where a professor of a school of deaf mutes, like Alexander Graham Bell, saw that it had great advantages in the teaching of mutes. He conferred with the lecturer, who told him that he had a son who was interested in that subject, and as a result of correspondence, the younger Bell received and accepted an offer to cross the Atlantic and teach in that school.

Alexander Melville Bell had but a short time before lost two sons, and he felt that the physical condition of his remaining son, Alexander Graham, was such that a change of climate was necessary to save his life. Accordingly, he sailed to Canada, and purchased the property on Tutela Heights, outside Brantford, now known as the Bell Homestead. In a hammock on that crest overlooking the Grand River Valley, swinging between two trees, Alexander Graham Bell won back his health in the great outdoors, while his mind was busy with the thoughts and plans which were ultimately to find fruition in one of the greatest of the world's discoveries. As strength returned, he commenced to make experiments.

To carry out his plan of teaching deaf mutes to speak, Alexander Graham Bell secured a phonautograph, a hollow cylinder, with one end covered with a membrane to which was attached a long bristle stylus. As one talked into the other end, the bristle, because of the vibration of the membrane, was made to write a waving line on the revolving cylinder of smoked glass placed before it. These lines were the outline of the sounds uttered.

At this time he was also working experimentally upon multiple telegraphy, whereby, he hoped, messages could be sent along the



DR. ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL  
*The Inventor*

same line simultaneously without confusion, by employing musical signals of definite pitch. These researches culminated in the invention in Brantford in 1874 of what is now known as the harp telephone, the ancestor of the speaking telephone.

It struck the young scientist while at work with the phonautograph, how similar the instrument was to the human ear, and how perfect a mechanism the human ear was. The suggestion came to him, after studying the ear's mechanism, that a phonautograph modelled after a human ear would be extremely effective for his purposes, and accordingly, on the advice of an eminent aurist, he secured a human ear. This he made into a phonautograph, taking a single fibre of hay as a stylus. The waves of sound as he talked into the ear, vibrating the delicate membrane of the tympanum, caused the bone to move and the wisp of hay to record the movements of the diaphragm upon a piece of smoked glass. The thought entered his mind, as he watched the tracings, that if the tympanum of the ear, so delicate, could move relatively so massive a structure as that of the bones of the ear, why could not a piece of iron be caused to vibrate in front of an electro-magnet by means of a larger and thicker membrane.

Thus was the telephone conceived, in the Bell Homestead on Tutela Heights. The significance of the movements of the membrane did not escape the young scientist, who realized that at last he had solved the problem upon which he had been working for some years. He converted the harp telephone into a membrane speaking telephone modelled after the human ear by attaching one of the reeds of the harp telephone to a stretched membrane, and thus forcing it to copy the movements of the air during the utterances of a sound which caused it to vibrate. And the telephone was an actuality.

But though the telephone was a reality, it was by no means perfect. He continued his experiments, and by the following summer, while again visiting at his home on Tutela Heights, he had so far advanced that he was able to write out the patent specifications during the month of September, 1875. These patents were largely based upon the liquid spark arrester which he had invented and made in Brantford during the summer vacation. He had found dif-

ficulty in working multiple telegraph apparatus on account of the spark that appeared between the contact point of the transmitter when the circuit was broken. This he overcame by bridging the gap



*Copyright photo reproduced by permission of The Bell Telephone Company of Canada*

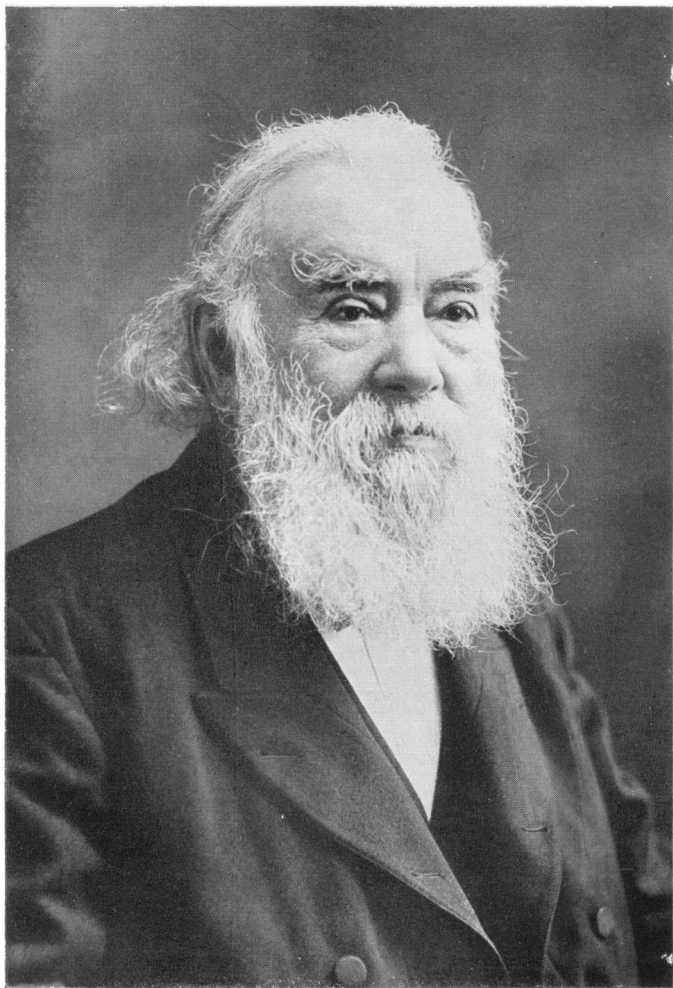
THE BELL HOMESTEAD AT THE TIME OF A VISIT BY THE  
NOTED INVENTOR, ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL

with water, and by dipping one of the conducting wires very slightly into the water. The wire was adjustable up and down to regulate the amount of water resistance introduced when the main

circuit was broken. This invention was of more than ordinary importance because in drafting his specifications, he laid stress upon the variable resistance apparatus, upon which the famous government suit was won by him in later years.

The following year the first messages were sent over a real telegraph line, all experiments hitherto having been conducted by means of wires in coils, kept in one building. In 1876 the inventor again spent his summer holidays at Tutela Heights. Through the kindness of the Dominion Telegraph Company of Canada, the local chief being Mr. W. H. Griffin, with Ewen Cameron, who long resided here, as a member of the staff, its lines were placed at his disposal for experiments. On August 10, 1876, experiments were made on the telegraph line between Brantford and Paris, which had two very important results. For the first time a message was transmitted by telephone over a real telegraph line, and the proper relation of the parts of a telephone to each other were discovered, enabling its use upon a long line. The receiver of the telephone was in Paris, the transmitter in Brantford, and the battery, which supplied the motor power, in Toronto. The young inventor had made arrangements with his uncle, the late Prof. David C. Bell, then a resident of Brantford, to take charge of the transmitting station, as his father had stated that he would not be able to be present. Persons were to sing, talk or recite into the transmitting instrument in Brantford, while he listened at the receiver at Paris. After observing the effects for some time, he telegraphed by another line to Brantford, instructing Mr. Griffin, the manager, as to changing the arrangement of the coils. As a result of this, a combination was at last arrived at which resulted in loud and clear articulation being heard at Paris. He thought he could even recognize the voice of one of the speakers as that of his father. Surprised, because of his understanding that his father could not be at hand, he wired back to Brantford to ascertain if his father had actually spoken into the telephone. When the reply came that the voice was that of his father, who had been reciting into the telephone for some time, he was delighted beyond words.

There was but one regret — that the instruments used in the test had been single ones, receiver in the one case, transmitter in the other, in place of there being a receiver and transmitter at each



ALEXANDER MELVILLE BELL  
*Father of the Inventor*



# [ Bell Telephone Memorial ]

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end. But the fact was established for the first time that the telephone was a living actuality, not merely a scientific experiment which had resulted successfully but was not practicable under other conditions — that it was a proven fact, using commercial telegraph wires in place of specially prepared coils suitable for experimental purposes alone.

The first public demonstration of the telephone was given within a few days of this event. Before the demonstration was given, however, the inventor proceeded to Tutela Heights, to assure himself that the Mount Pleasant Telegraph line could be utilized for the experiment. He found that the distance from the nearest point on the Mount Pleasant line was about a quarter of a mile distant from his father's home. To overcome this difficulty, he undertook an experiment which was daring to a high degree. He came into the city and bought up all the stove pipe wire which was procurable. This he tacked along the fences on the way from the Bell home to the telegraph line, making connections with the latter. His originality saved the day, for the experiment was entirely successful. The transmitting instrument, which was again installed in Brantford, was a triple instrument, and for the first time it was demonstrated that the voices of a number of persons could be transmitted simultaneously and clearly heard at the other end. The three persons at the Brantford end rendered a three part song, which was clearly understood at Tutela Heights. A part of the wire used is to-day a chief feature of the Bell Homestead Museum.

There were several other experiments in this city. Ewen Cameron clearly recalled, in 1917, one made when the experimental line of stove pipe wire was connected up through the Colborne Street office of the Dominion Telegraph Company with Wycliffe Hall, afterwards the Y.M.C.A., where before a crowded hall, Prof. Bell gave an exhibition of his experiments. Later connections were made with Burford, Hamilton and other points, all being triumphantly successful.

That was in 1876. The scientific principle had been solved. It remained to apply it commercially, with improvements in the apparatus, which made it the more effective. The principle embodied in the Bell Telephone as invented in Brantford is in use in practically all the telephones used throughout the world.

And they are many. In Canada alone, it is officially stated, there were at December 31, 1935, 1,193,729 telephones in the Bell and connecting systems. The United States, with its greater population largely concentrated in the cities, led the world in telephones, there being 16,868,955 in all United States lines. While the older countries have not adapted the telephone to their daily use to the extent that Canadians and United States citizens have, yet the total mounts into the millions, Britain leading in concentration with four million phones for its small area. Official figures as of 1928, 1935 and 1944 are:

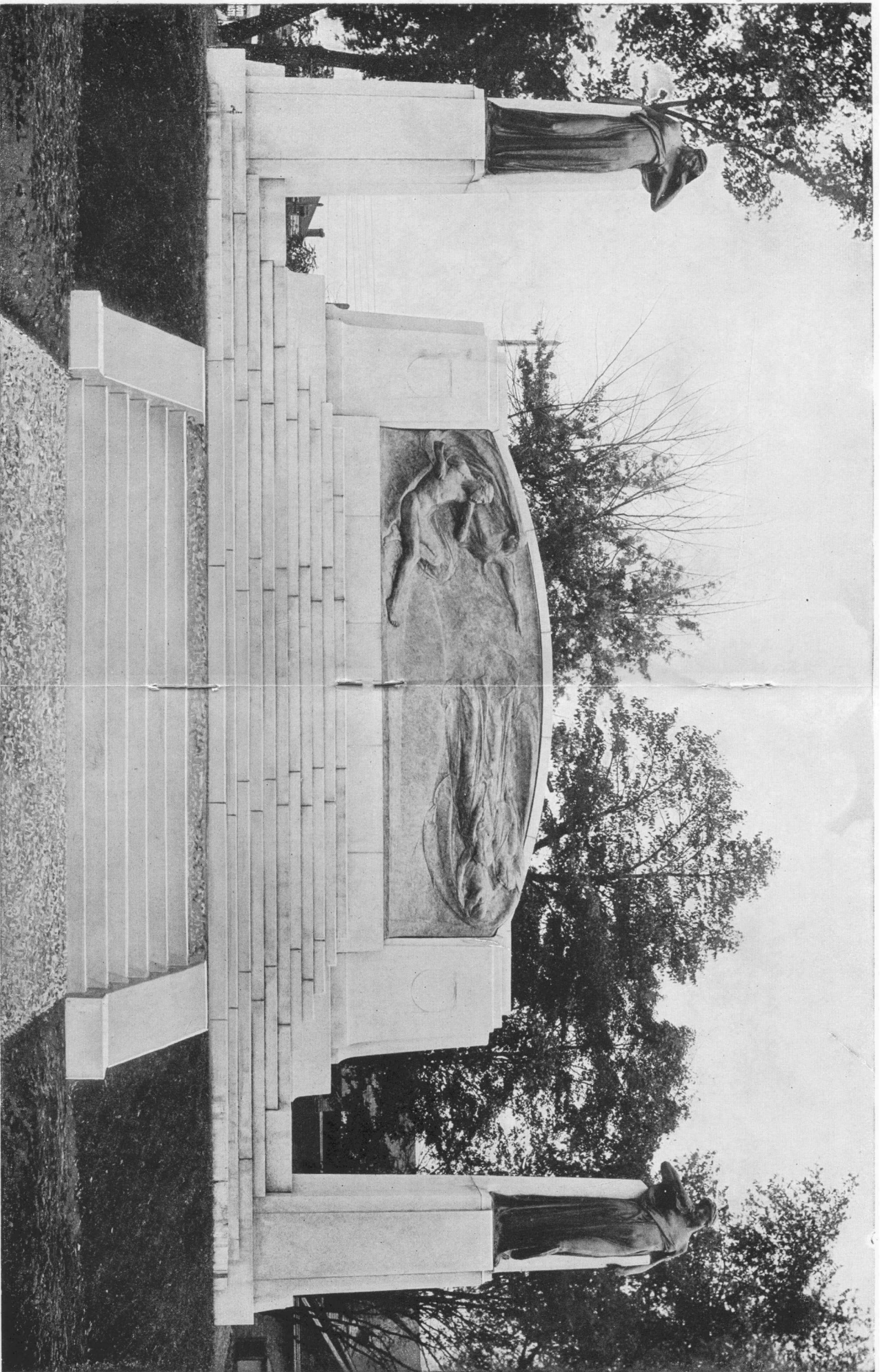
## TOTAL WORLD'S TELEPHONES

	1928	1935	1944
Europe .....	8,080,642	12,028,758	16,629,068
United States .....	17,746,168	16,868,955	26,381,000
Canada .....	1,264,605	1,193,729	1,627,775
Balance .....	2,287,015	3,448,448	4,705,053
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>29,378,430</b>	<b>33,539,890</b>	<b>49,742,514</b>

## To Commemorate the Invention of the Telephone by Alexander Graham Bell, in Brantford in 1874

So runs the inscription, cut in granite, ever enduring, on the Bell Memorial, unveiled here on October 24, 1917, by His Excellency the Duke of Devonshire, Governor-General of Canada. Thus to the world is emblazoned the fact that in this city of Brantford, on Tuetla Heights, was the telephone conceived, invented; and that from this city emanated the first telephone message to be transmitted over a telegraph line to the first "long distance" call.

Though the telephone was invented here in 1874, and the first long distance messages were transmitted here in 1876, also from this city, it was not until 1906 that steps were taken here to commemorate the fact. On the suggestion of W. F. Cockshutt, M.P., then President of the Board of Trade, the matter was taken up, and was rousingly endorsed at a banquet held at the Kerby House, on March 9, 1906, under the auspices of the Board of Trade, at which Dr. Alexander Graham Bell was an honored and distinguished guest. At this banquet Dr. Bell, in reminiscent vein, recalled



MONUMENT ERECTED TO COMMEMORATE THE INVENTION OF THE TELEPHONE BY ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL, IN BRANTFORD IN 1874

# [ Bell Telephone Memorial ]

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his early experiments here, experiments which were crowned with success. He then remarked, in answering the toast to "The Telephone and its Inventor," that it was so long since he had been in Brantford that it seemed as a dream, yet that day, at his old home on Tutela Heights, he had met two men who had helped him to put up the first telephone line in the world. Around the very tables he could see many men who were at Tutela Heights when his uncle's voice came over the stove pipe wire from the city of Brantford. The wire, at the time of his visit in 1906, was still strung to the fences.

It was in the same year, 1906, that the Bell Telephone Memorial Association was organized and incorporated by an Act of the Legislature of Ontario for the purpose of commemorating the invention of the telephone here and of perpetuating the name of the inventor. Organized under the patronage of His Royal Highness, the Prince of Wales, later His Majesty, King George V, and His Excellency, the Earl of Minto, then Governor-General of the Dominion, the latter's successor, the late Earl Grey, and many men of eminence in Canada and the United States endorsed the proposal and gave it their support. The first Honorary President was Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal, who, on his demise, was succeeded by His Royal Highness, the Duke of Connaught, one time Governor-General of Canada.

The response to the call for funds was immediate and generous. The Dominion and Provincial Governments made splendid contributions, as did the City and County Councils, and with liberal contributions from present and former residents of the city, \$65,000 was secured.

By 1908 invitations were sent to sculptors in Europe, the United States and Canada, inviting them to submit models for a memorial. A designs committee of members of the Bell Memorial Association was appointed, consisting of W. F. Cockshutt (President), C. H. Waterous, T. H. Preston, George Hatley, A. J. Wilkes, K.C., and F. D. Reville. They selected three most favored by them out of nine models offered, and a trio of distinguished outside judges — Sir Edmund Walker, Toronto; Senator Davis, New York State, and Sir George C. Gibbons, London — was asked to join with the committee in making the final decision.



After much consideration, the award was made to W. S. Allward, of Toronto, under an agreement that work should be completed by 1912. For reasons which the committee accepted, the memorial was not completed until 1917, the Great War, with its difficulties of transport, having much to do with the delay in the final months.

When the Brantford monument was unveiled to Bell and his invention on Wednesday, October 24, 1917, by the Duke of Devonshire, then Governor-General of Canada, the great inventor at the close of his address said:

**"I wish to say, on behalf of the Bell Telephone Memorial Association, that I have great pleasure in presenting to His Excellency a silver telephone, and I hope that in using it he will remember that the telephone originated in Brantford and that the first transmission to a distance was made between Brantford and Paris."**

It was felt but fitting that the Bell Homestead, the family residence of Prof. Alexander Melville Bell, where were conducted the experiments which led to the invention of the telephone and its application to long distance message, should be retained for all time as a memorial of the invention and its relation to Brantford. The homestead consists of 13 acres of land, beautifully situated on Tutela Heights, overlooking the Grand River and the City of Brantford. It was purchased by Prof. Bell in 1870, when he first came to Canada to reside, and there he lived until 1881, when he removed to Washington, to be near his son, the noted inventor. The homestead was purchased by the Bell Telephone Memorial Association in 1909, and was deeded to the city, being now a portion of the parks system of the City of Brantford, under the control of the Board of Parks Commissioners. It is kept open throughout the year, and its register has in it many signatures of noted men and women. Of late years the Telephone Pioneers of America have shown much interest in it, contributing to its interesting museum.

An interesting feature of the homestead is that in one of the rooms are placed models of the original telephone and many later models in chronological order, as well as relics of the Bell family's residence therein, the public room appearing much as it did in 1874-1876.



## The Monument



**T**HE BELL MEMORIAL is one of the most impressive monuments in Canada to-day. Not a towering shaft of granite and bronze, it is so designed by a stroke of genius as to indicate the wide spaces traversed by the telephone. On the crest of a series of steps is the main portion of the monument — a huge mass of white granite. This is faced by the largest single bronze casting ever turned out, a casting which taxed the capacity of the foundry. The sculptor sought to bring out, as the dominant note, the discovery by man of his power to transmit sound through space. Above the reclining figure of man is Inspiration, urging him on to greater endeavors, while, at the other end of the panel are the floating figures of Knowledge, Joy and Sorrow, brought to man by the telephone. A former resident of Brantford named Kinsella, invalided home from the front, acted as Mr. Allward's model, and afterwards re-enlisted. At the side of the main portion of the monument are two heroic female figures in bronze on granite, representing Humanity, the one being depicted in the act of sending, the other of receiving a message over the telephone. These two figures are some distance apart, to tell the power of the telephone to traverse great distances. In this, as all observers have commented, the sculptor has achieved his objective.

The Stanstead granite, of which the foundation, steps, pedestals and walls are composed, is declared to be indestructible. On the rear is a stone foundation, with bullfrog gargoyles, while cut in the stone, on pilasters, are representations of the British Crown and the Maple Leaf. On the rear, also, is placed a bronze tablet giving the names of the patrons and of the executive committee of the Bell Telephone Memorial Association.

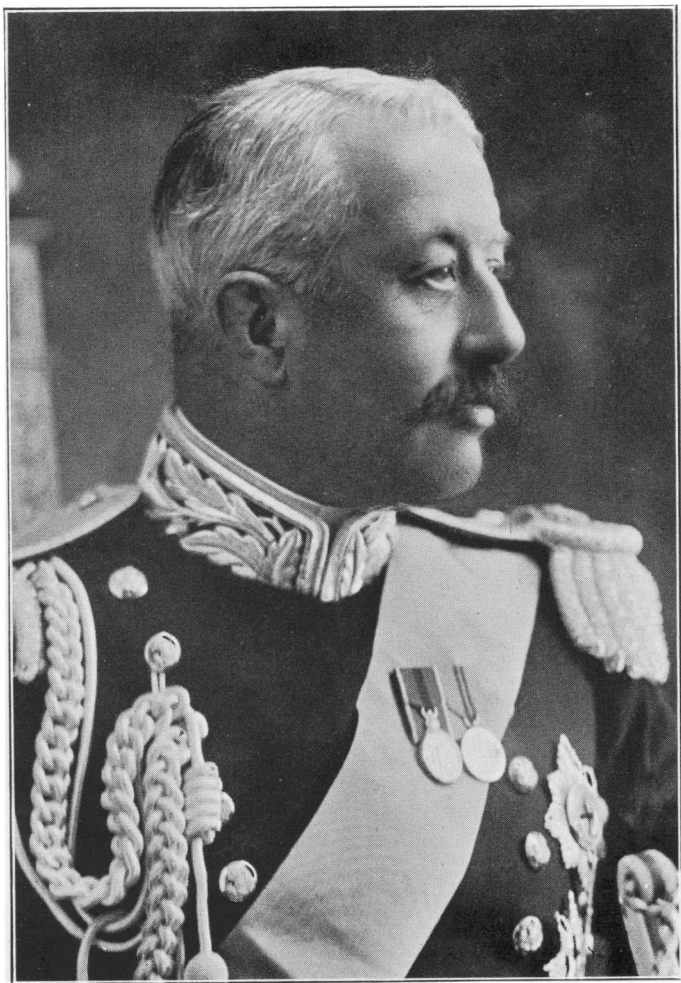


*The monument is admirably located on a gore formed by West, Wellington and King Streets. The triangular plot of land in front of the monument has been parked, while the embankments have been sodded.*



THE PANEL

*In front of the gore which contains the monument is a smaller gore which has been artistically laid out as a park, the whole being known as the Bell Memorial Gardens.*



DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE

*Governor-General of Canada at time of Unveiling of Monument  
October 24, 1917*

## Biographical

ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL



ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL, inventor of the telephone, was born in Edinburgh, Scotland, on March 3, 1847, being the second son of Alexander Melville Bell, an authority on phonetics and defective speech. He was educated at the University of Edinburgh and the University of London, where he was appointed a professor. In 1870 he received an appointment at a school for deaf mutes in Boston, U.S., and came to Canada with his father, who purchased property on Tutela Heights, Brantford, now known as the Bell Homestead. Alexander Graham Bell landed in Canada on August 1, 1870, and after a few days spent at Paris, Ont., took up residence with his father here. In March, 1871, he went to Boston, Mass. During 1871, and the greater part of 1872 — though his home was officially in Brantford — he spent a great part of his time in the United States, and in October, 1872, took up residence in Boston, with the intention of becoming an American citizen.

In 1872 he became professor of vocal physiology in Boston University, there taking up experiments in the transmission of sound by electric energy, and other similar work, coupled with his work in tracing sound waves by means of the phonautograph, as previously recounted. His summer vacations he spent in Brantford, and in 1874 he invented the telephone here. In 1875 he carried out further experiments with the new invention, filing his patent-specifications which he had written here in September. In 1876 his telephone was used in Brantford for the first time for long distance messages over a telegraph wire.

The difficulties which faced him in the commercial application of his invention were so great that had he realized them at once he

# **Bell Telephone Memorial**

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might have been appalled. A great plant had to be built to put the invention in practical use. Financial assistance was hard to get. Dr. Bell first went to the fathers of two of his pupils, and interested them to such an extent that finally they began to help him. He appealed to others, and the small investors responded. There was little cash on hand. The first general manager of the Bell system wrote to a man in New York who was making a small piece of machinery for him, asking when it would be ready. The man responded: "It will be ready Monday next, and the bill, which will be \$7, will be ready at the same time."

It is interesting to note that though the principle of the Bell telephone is still the same as that invented here in 1874, the telephone receiver in use when the memorial was unveiled in 1917, was the 54th type, and the transmitter the 74th type.

In his later years, Dr. Bell interested himself in the problem of mechanical flight, carrying out experiments with man-lifting kites, working with these at Baddeck Bay, Nova Scotia, his summer home, where his death took place in August, 1922.

Throughout his life he took keen interest in the researches in the science of speech and sound, being connected with the Smithsonian Institute at Washington, and the Volte Bureau, an aid for deaf mutes, also at Washington.

Among other inventions credited to him are the photophone, an instrument for transmitting sound by variations in a beam of light, and a phonographic apparatus.

Three generations of the Bell family became famous for their work in the line of elocution and the science of sound. Alexander Bell, Alexander Melville Bell, and the latter's two sons, Alexander Graham and Charles Edward, were all noted authorities on elocution and the kindred science of vocal sounds.

## ALEXANDER MELVILLE BELL

Alexander Melville Bell, father of the inventor of the telephone, was born in Edinburgh, Scotland, in 1819, and had three distinct periods of professional life. The first 24 years he was a student, the succeeding 27 years he was a teacher, the last 35 years of his life the recognized master of his profession. As his father had been recognized as a leading instructor of elocution, and had achieved notable success in the treatment of defective speech, the son from earliest infancy entered at home an environment of student life which exceptionally fitted him for the career he followed for so long, and with such signal distinction.

The teacher period of Prof. Bell's career began in 1843 and ended in 1870. Apart from his regular engagements as instructor in the University of Edinburgh and that of London, as well as of lesser institutions, he had many private pupils, and the continuous lectures and readings in public were astounding in their number. In 1842 he announced the formulation of a new theory of articulation, his father according them general approval. After elaborating his system he taught it to his two sons, Alexander Graham and Charles Edward. Public demonstrations were given, all imaginable vocal sounds made by the professor's friends being written down by him, and the symbols read without hesitation by his sons, who were in another room while the sounds were made. The discovery that the mechanism of speech, operating on the organs of voice, acts in a uniform manner for the production of the same oral effect in different individuals, ranked Prof. A. M. Bell as foremost master of the science of speech.

He remained active with his pen, no less than 17 works relating to speech, vocal physiology, stenography, etc., being issued while he labored in England. He continued to live in Edinburgh until 1870,

# [ Bell Telephone Memorial ]

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when, his eldest and youngest sons having died, he determined to cross the Atlantic to save the life of his remaining son, Alexander Graham Bell. This was his third trip across the Atlantic. He located at Tutela Heights, near this city, and for 11 years remained a resident, holding the professorship of elocution at Queen's University, Kingston, and delivering lectures at Boston, Montreal, Toronto, London and other cities, as well as appearing in numerous public readings. Soon after arriving in Canada he gave a series of 12 lectures at the Lowell Institute, Boston, and repeated this the following year. The residence in Brantford was so beneficial to his son, Alexander Graham, that he accepted a position in the faculty of Boston University School of Oratory. In 1881 Prof. A. M. Bell and Mrs. Bell removed to Washington, to reside near their son, who had taken up his permanent residence there. Here he continued in his work, delivering many lectures before the most advanced bodies in North America, while he reissued many of the books he had written in the Old Land as well as writing many others.

In 1901 he paid a visit to Brantford, his old home, where he was honored by being given the task of presenting to the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall (later King George V and Queen Mary) a silver long distance telephone as a civic gift from "The Telephone City," to mark their stay here on their tour of the Dominion.

He was twice most happily married, his first wife being Eliza Grace, daughter of Surgeon Samuel Symonds, mother of his surviving son, to whom he was wed in 1844, and his second, Mrs. Harriet G. Shibley. He passed away on August 7, 1904, at his son's home at Washington, amid much regret.

Prof. Alexander Melville Bell was much honored in his lifetime. He was awarded the fellowship of the Educational Institute of Scotland, and that of the Royal Scottish Society of Arts, receiving the silver medal of the latter for his phonetic shorthand. In 1885, he was elected a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and was a member of many of the scientific Associations of the United States.



## Brantford the "Telephone City"



DR. ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL  
TO T. H. PRESTON  
March, 1916

*"Brantford is justified in calling herself 'The Telephone City,' because the Telephone originated there."*

DR. ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL  
TO W. F. COCKSHUTT  
March 16, 1904

*"Now it so happens that the Telephone was invented in Brantford, at Tutela Heights, during my visit to my father and mother in 1874."*

DR. ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL  
AT BRANTFORD BOARD OF TRADE BANQUET  
March 9, 1906

*Referring to the first experiment over a real telegraph line, from Tutela Heights to Brantford, said: — "First I heard a cough, then a voice which said 'To be or not to be.' It was 'To be'."*

DR. ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL  
AT BOSTON  
March 13, 1916

*"The conception of the Telephone took place during that summer visit to my father's residence in Brantford in 1874, and the apparatus was just as it was subsequently made, a one-membrane telephone on either end."*

*"The experiment of August 10, 1876, made from Brantford to Paris, was the first transmission, the first clear, intelligible transmission of speech over the real line, that had ever been made."*

# [ Bell Telephone Memorial ]

*It is the earnest wish of the Mayor, City Council and Board of Park Management that your visit here has been enjoyable and that this brochure will from time to time bring pleasant memories of your visit to Brantford.*

## Brantford Board of Parks and Cemeteries Management

1917

At time of unveiling of Bell Memorial in presence of the inventor, ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL: FRANKLIN GROBB, *Chairman*; FRANK COCKSHUTT, WILLIAM GLOVER, G. S. MATTHEWS, E. L. GOOLD, T. QUINLAN, J. W. BOWLBY, *Mayor*.

## Bell Telephone Memorial Association

BRANTFORD, CANADA

*Incorporated by Special Act of the Province of Ontario*  
UNDER THE PATRONAGE OF H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES

LATER

His Majesty King George V

*Honorary President*

H.R.H. THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT, K.G.

*President*

W. F. COCKSHUTT, M.P.

*Vice-President*

LLOYD HARRIS

W. N. ANDREWS  
E. L. GOOLD  
M. K. HALLORAN  
GEO. KIPPAX  
G. H. MUIRHEAD

T. H. PRESTON  
F. D. REVILLE  
C. H. WATEROUS  
A. J. WILKES, K.C.  
WARDEN OF COUNTY

MAYOR OF CITY

JOHN MUIR, *Treasurer*

GEO. HATELY, *Secretary*

Brantford, Ontario, "The Telephone City"

# Brantford First in Sequence of Events Prepared by Alexander Graham Bell, Inventor of the Telephone

Synopsis of telephone chronology in Mr. Bell's handwriting, written at the time of dedication of the Bell Memorial at Brantford, Canada, and given to Catherine Mackenzie, writer of his noted biography.

## SYNOPSIS OF EVENTS

<i>Events</i>	<i>Where</i>	<i>When</i>
The invention of the telephone at Tutela Heights .....	Brantford	Summer, 1874
First telephone constructed, and speech and sound heard .....	Boston	June, 1875
First draft of the telephone patent specifications prepared .....	Brantford	Sept., 1875
Complete sentences first clearly understood by telephone .....	Boston	Mar. 10, 1876
The telephone exhibited at the Centennial Exhibition .....	Philadelphia	June 25, 1876
The first attempts to transmit speech over telegraph lines ....	Boston	July 7, 9 and 12, 1876
First successful attempt to transmit speech over a telegraph line	Brantford	Aug., 1876
First public demonstration of ability to speak over a telegraph line .....	Brantford	Aug., 1876
First transmission of a number of voices simultaneously over a telegraph line .....	Brantford	Aug., 1876
First conversation by telephone over a telegraph line .....	Boston	Oct. 9, 1876
First long-distance conversation over a telegraph line (143 miles) .....	Boston	Dec. 3, 1876
First newspaper dispatch sent by telephone .....	Salem	Feb. 12, 1877
First telephone line opened .....	Boston	April 4, 1877

(Note by reviewer of book. — The term "first conversation" as applied to Boston means speaking both ways; in the earlier Brantford experiments it was only possible to speak one way.)

